



**1176th meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**

7:30PM Wednesday April 23, 2014

**Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California**

BOOK REVIEW:

**JOHN J. FORD, JR. AND
THE "FRANKLIN HOARD"**

**REVIEWED BY
WILLIAM D. HYDER**

1175th meeting, March 26, 2014

Michael Wehner presented his talk: San Francisco Gold Rush Tokens.

The earliest San Francisco tokens are generally identified as those of the Joseph Brothers and N.J. Hyman, similar pieces in style and fabric. Michael used early city directories, newspapers, and other published reports to answer the question to his satisfaction.

While the dates of businesses appearing on tokens can be determined with some precision from the original sources, the exact date of actual token manufacture and use cannot be precisely determined. Addresses mentioned on tokens can restrict the date range when they are used.

Excluding the token that inspired his search, the earliest San Francisco pieces are J. T. Jones countermarked pieces from the Blue Wing Saloon circa 1852-1856. The most interesting example of the countermark is found on an 1851 U.S. Assay Office Humbert \$50 gold slug. Bernhart & Jacoby pieces likely date to the same 1852-1856 period. The Joseph Brothers pieces would come next in the 1854 to 1860 period. The N. J. Hyman—who worked for the Joseph Brothers at one point—probably date to the 1870s. Other identified early pieces are all post 1860.

Michael focused on one piece tentatively assigned to San Francisco or Latin America, the Mauduit & Comp. half dollar token for the Cercle de San-Francisco. Michael found a July 1850 article in *Household Words*, *A Weekly Journal* edited by Charles Dickens reporting on a proposed French gambling establishment planned for to open in San Francisco on December 31, 1850. It is likely the business opened in 1851 even if it did not survive long making the token the earliest recorded for Gold Rush San Francisco.



Members shared the following items:

Ed shared the 2013 limited edition San Francisco silver proof set.

Jerry shared a uniface cent with the question as to whether it was a mint error or an actual uniface cent. Actual uniface pieces will exhibit a wavy, convex, or concave surface and flow lines from the pressure. Jerry's piece

had parallel lines indicating it was a planed surface for inserting into a magician's nickel.

Scott exhibited an MS66RD Katanga 1961 1 Franc and an MS64RD 5 Francs.

Lew exhibited seven western tokens including a Buffalo Bill souvenir from Cody, WY; a slot machine token; Green River Whiskey token; and a 1910 Ohio River Valley Exposition medal.

Chris shared a high relief medal with the bust of Handel manufactured by Pinches of London.

Carl shared sets of Buffalo Nickels and Lincoln Cents.

Bill exhibited a silver-plated example of the 1896 NSGW Stockten Admissions Day medal and an 1894 National Guard of California Marksman Badge.

Raffle:

Chris won a 1700-1800 World Coins Catalog, a Colorado Springs Coin Show print, and a Russian medal.

Ed won a PPIE Opening Day Badge and a silver round.

Bill won a French art medal and a German art medal.

Chris won four silver spoons and several stacks of books.

Carl won a stack of books.

2014 Annual Papers Contest:

PCNS is accepting entries for its 2014 Papers Contest. Submissions must be previously unpublished original writing on a numismatic topic. Participation is open to all. You do not need to be a PCNS member to participate. Submissions are due by the end of April. See http://www.pcns.org/pdf_docs/papersRules.pdf for more information.

2014 meeting Schedule:

May 28, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

June 28, 2014: Banquet TBA

July 23, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

August 27, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

September 24, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

October 22, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

November 26, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

December 17, 2014: Building C, Fort Mason

June Banquet:

The board voted to again hold a Saturday afternoon barbeque in June. Watch this space in the May bulletin for more information.

September 2014 White Elephant Auction:

Numismatics and Expositions will be the theme of a White Elephant fund raising auction to be held by mailbid and in person at the September meeting. We will combine donations from Jerry Schimmel, remaining PCNS PPIE items (mostly paper ephemera and books), and member donations. Bill and Jerry will coordinate to list the items and minimum bids in the August bulletin. Mail bids will be accepted through the day before the September meeting. Donations may be brought to a meeting or mailed to Jerry Schimmel by the July 23 meeting. If you wish us to use a minimum bid, please state it with your donation. Items may be mailed to Jerry Schimmel, P.O. Box 40888, San Francisco, CA 94140.

John J. Ford meeting theme:

Numismatic book dealer, Karl V. Moulton, bought Ford's correspondence files following his death. Using Ford's materials, Moulton examines the history of many territorial gold pieces authenticated and sold by Ford over the years, many of which are now recognized as fakes. Moulton does not pass judgement, rather he leaves it to the reader to decide for themselves who should take the blame.

Bring examples of counterfeits, fakes, and fantasies to share as part of the discussion.

The board voted to move as many bulletin recipients to email as possible. If you currently receive your bulletin via paper mail and you have an email account, please inform the recorder at bsktmkr@pacbell.net to have your postal mailed bulletin changed to email delivery. Thank you for your help in reducing our expenses.